

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded, long-term support and services for almost 4,000 individuals with disabilities in day, residential, and family support programs in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, On a daily basis, direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities with the most intimate needs; and,

Whereas, Direct support professionals provide a broad range of support to people with disabilities, including preparation of meals, medications, bathing, dressing, mobility, traveling to school, work, religious and recreational activities, and general daily affairs; and,

Whereas, Direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and the community; and,

Whereas, Direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives; and,

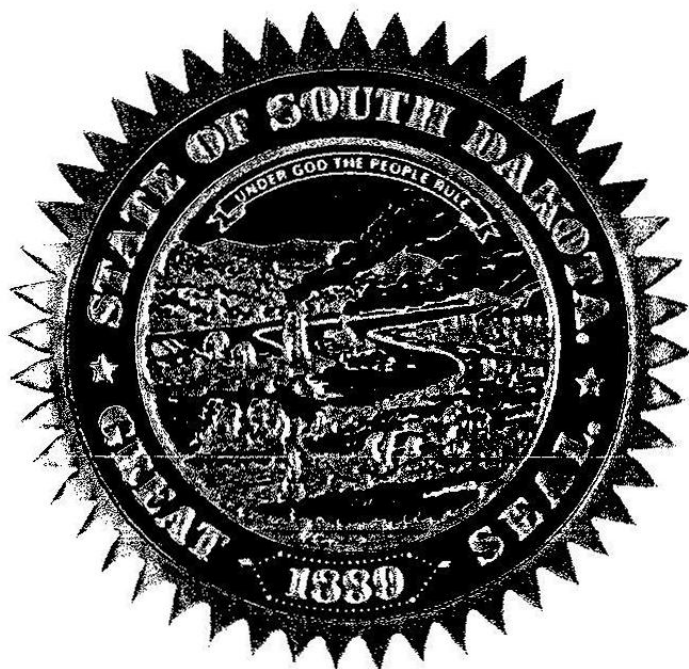
Whereas, There are over 2,600 direct support professionals working in the family support program, the South Dakota Development Center, and 19 other South Dakota community agencies; and,

Whereas, Direct support professionals are key to allowing individuals with disabilities to live successfully in their communities:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 8 - 14, 2008, as

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-seventh Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State